

UROLOGICAL SURGERY—Third Edition—Austin Ingram Dodson, M.D., F.A.C.S., Richmond, Virginia. Professor of Urology, Medical College of Virginia. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1956. 868 pages, \$20.00.

This is the latest edition of what has long since become the standard textbook on the technical details of urological surgery. As explained by the author in his Preface to the First Edition, it does not pretend to be a complete treatise on urology, but is rather a surgical supplement to the numerous other existing texts. Naturally there is necessarily some background discussion of anatomy and pathology, but by far the major part of the text is limited to descriptions of surgical principles and techniques. Space limitations do not permit detailed description of all modifications of the various procedures. He quotes Marchetti with the statement that he has found "approximately 95" surgical methods for the cure of stress incontinence. For each condition, however, Dodson does describe adequately those methods which he has found most valuable in his everyday practice.

Though the size of the volume has been increased in this edition, the author has found it necessary to omit some non-surgical subjects included in the former editions, in order to include more recent developments in surgical technique, including the surgical diagnostic procedures such as arteriography and retroperitoneal air injection. Several chapters are contributed by men whom Dodson describes as "more capable than I to discuss particular subjects." As might be expected these chapters are not limited exclusively to the surgery of the disease under discussion, but they are all clear and concise presentations.

Not all of the more recent developments in urological surgery are described in complete detail, but as a rule the reference to the original description of the operation is included in the bibliography. One excellent example is the four line reference to the Culp pelvic flap modification of Foley's plastic operation on the ureteropelvic junction. The author also apparently rejects the recent tendency to omit the ureteral splint and the nephrostomy as essential parts of these operations. All approaches to surgery of the prostate are included, and the discussion seems eminently fair.

The form of the book and the organization of the material do not differ materially from previous editions. The illustrations are excellent, and for the most part serve to illuminate the text effectively. Numerous pictures are essential in a book of this kind to clarify the descriptions of the various steps in technique, and probably even more of them would have been acceptable.

On the whole this new edition is a worthwhile improvement on a book that was already a very superior work. There is no doubt that Dodson is and will continue to be the outstanding text on the technique of urological operations and an absolute "must" for the library of the practicing urologist. It is highly recommended.

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PRINCIPLES OF SURGICAL PHYSIOLOGY—Harry Davis, M.D., C.M., F.A.C.S. Clinical Professor of Surgery and Director of Surgical Research, College of Medical Evangelists; Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., Medical Book Department of Harper & Brothers, 49 East 33rd Street, New York 16, N. Y., 1957. 841 pages, \$20.00.

Ten years ago there were no books available written under the title of *Surgical Physiology*. In the past five years, however, three books have appeared entitled *Surgical Physiology*, namely those of Nash, Zimmerman and Levine, and now the present book by Davis. All three of these books are good, but the present work has certain appealing features and advantages. It is written by a single author who preserves a continuity of thought, style, and expression of a high order throughout the entire volume. Better perspective

and a more equitable emphasis on the field of general surgery is thereby obtained. The orientation of the book is towards the basic physiologic and biochemical facts which form the basis of our concepts of modern surgery.

Part I of the book is devoted to the general problems of surgery, including fluids, electrolytes, metabolism, and tissue transplantation. Part II takes up each system in turn, and surgical specialties are handled in a perspective clearly relating their special knowledge to the general principles of surgery. Technique is not discussed, but the rationale for various proposed techniques in surgery are clearly evaluated and defined.

The style is clear, concise, and lucid. The illustrations are few, but numerous diagrams are offered to simplify and guide the reader through complex physiological and biochemical mechanisms. The reference lists are well chosen, and the author is to be congratulated on bringing the latest physiological and biochemical concepts to the surgeon. This book will help bridge the inevitable gap which results between the rapid development of basic and clinical aspects of medicine and surgery. The bridging of this gap leads to clearer surgical thinking and sounder clinical care of surgical patients. The book can be highly recommended to students, house officers, and practicing surgeons who desire re-education in the basic concepts of surgery.

VICTOR RICHARDS, M.D.

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ORAL DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT (ORAL MEDICINE) Third Edition—A Textbook for Students and Practitioners of Dentistry and Medicine—Samuel Charles Miller, D.D.S., F.A.C.D., F.A.D.M., Professor of Periodontia and Oral Medicine, New York University College of Medicine. The Blakiston Division, McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, 1957. 977 pages, 577 black and white illustrations and 30 color plates, \$16.00.

This book is well written and carefully compiled and is of more value to the dentist than to the physician. However there are parts of it which are of great value to the physician, particularly those dealing with diseases and deformities of the head and neck.

The chapter on Diagnosis of Lesions of the Lip and Mouth is most thorough. The chapter on Head Pain is complete and instructive and of great help in diagnosis. There is a chapter on diseases of the mouth and adnexa in children and also one on dental conditions in children. The chapter on Diseases of the Mouth and Oral Mucous Membranes is most instructive. The section on Roentgenographic Interpretation is most instructive and well done. Surgical management of oral disease is quite completely covered except for the technic of special surgical procedures such as cleft lip and palate.

The next section of the book on Periodontal Disease and lesions of the hard structures of the teeth and of prosthetics occupies at least one-quarter of the book and is of interest primarily to the dentist. There is a good chapter on Diagnosis and Treatment of Diseases of the Salivary Glands. After a consideration of salivary analyses and caries control, there is a section on manifestations of metabolic and endocrine dysfunction, followed by oral and dental diseases of occupational origin; aviation dentistry and laboratory tests in oral diagnosis.

This book is filled with many photographs. The color photographs, of which there are considerable, are outstanding. The black and white photographs are good but are not in a class with the color photographs for accurate delineation of pathological conditions.

This book is of great value to the oral surgeon and to the dentist and is of definite value to those who work about the head and mouth.

GEORGE WARREN PIERCE, M.D.